

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 TRSE-00 STR-04 ITC-01
COME-00 L-03 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1004
INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 13928

MANILA FOR UNDER SECRETARY COOPER

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EMIN, ETRD, JA
SUBJECT: CONCERN ABOUT IMPLICATIONS OF U.S. STEEL ANTI-DUMPING
ACTION

1. SUMMARY. MITI AND JAPANESE STEEL INDUSTRY LOOK UPON U.S. STEEL'S THREAT TO INITIATE DUMPING CHARGES AS DANGEROUS ESCALATION OF STEEL DISPUTE. THEY HOPE USG WILL MOVE TO CONVINCE U.S. STEEL IT SHOULD NOT GO AHEAD WITH LEGAL ACTION WHILE EFFORTS AT INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION UNDER WAY. END SUMMARY.

2. AMAYA, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF MITI BASIC INDUSTRIES BUREAU, SUMMONED E/C MINISTER SEPTEMBER 9 TO REGISTER EXTREME CONCERN AT REPORTS BASED ON STATEMENTS OF SPEER OF U.S. STEEL THAT HE PLANNED INITIATE DUMPING CHARGES AGAINST JAPANESE AND EUROPEAN STEEL.

3. AMAYA FEARS TREASURY ACCEPTANCE OF PETITION WILL CAUSE SERIOUS DISTURBANCE TO COOPERATIVE ATMOSPHERE WHICH HAS BEEN EXPECTED TO BE CREATED BY SUB CABINET TALKS, OECD STEEL CONSULTATIONS AND INDEED WHOLE OF MTN'S. HE ARGUES THAT ESPECIALLY SINCE DUMPING INVESTIGATIONS NOW INVOLVE SEEKING DETAILED COST OF CONFIDENTIAL

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PRODUCTION DATA (TOKYO 13924), JAPANESE INDUSTRY CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE TO SEEK COOPERATIVE SOLUTIONS TO U.S. STEEL INDUSTRY'S ADJUSTMENT PROBLEMS.

4. WE HAVE BEEN PICKING UP INDEPENDENTLY INDICATIONS THAT JAPANESE STEEL INDUSTRY IS RETHINKING ITS WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE WITH U.S. IN REACHING AMICABLE SOLUTION TO STEEL PROBLEMS. THEY HAVE

BEEN WATCHING CAREFULLY TO SEE HOW U.S. INDUSTRY MOVES ON DUMPING CHARGES AND LOOK UPON IT AS INDICATOR OF DEGREE OF U.S. INDUSTRY'S BELLIGERANCY. THEY ALSO RECOGNIZE OF COURSE THAT INDUSTRY'S STATEMENTS ALSO DIRECTED AT INDUCING PROMPTER ACTIONS IN THEIR BEHALF BY U.S. GOVERNMENT.

5. AMAYA ASKED WHETHER TREASURY COULD NOT BE PERSUADED TO REFUSE TO ACCEPT PETITION ON GROUNDS THAT INSUFFICIENT PRESUMPTIVE EVIDENCE OF DUMPING WAS BEING SUBMITTED. WE TOLD HIM WE EXPECTED THAT DOMESTIC INDUSTRY'S LAWYERS WOULD HAVE CLEAR IDEA OF PRECEDENTS AS TO AMOUNT OF EVIDENCE REQUIRED TO INITIATE ACTION.

6. AMAYA OBVIOUSLY HOPES FOR HIGH LEVEL INTERVENTION TO INDUCE U.S. STEEL TO HOLD OFF FILING DUMPING CHARGE.

7. EMBASSY COMMENTS. WHILE WE OBVIOUSLY CANNOT FROM HERE VISUALIZE FULL RANGE OF ELEMENTS BEARING ON U.S. POLICY MAKERS IN STEEL ARENA, WE HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED WITH GENERAL JAPANESE DESIRE TO COOPERATE TO REACH MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTIONS TO THIS LARGE PROBLEM. WE RECOGNIZE USG MAY NOT BE IN A POSITION TO "TURN OFF" REQUESTS FOR ANTI-DUMPING INVESTIGATIONS, BUT WOULD HOPE SOME MEANS MAY BE FOUND TO ASSURE JAPANESE THAT SUCH INVESTIGATIONS WOULD PROCEED IN A WAY AND AT A PACE THAT WILL NOT JEOPARDIZE THEIR ABILITY TO COOPERATE IN THE LARGER INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS UNDERWAY TO REACH A GENERAL SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS FACING THE WORLD'S STEEL INDUSTRY AS A WHOLE.

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MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
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